

SECRET
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

5-2236
10 March '67

MILITARY AND MILITARY RELATED CARGOES IMPORTED BY CAMBODIA, LAST HALF 1966

All of the military cargoes delivered to Cambodia in 1966, as in 1965, were discharged at Sihanoukville. Most of the military shipments in the last half of 1966 arrived in accordance with military aid agreements with Communist China and the Soviet Union. One Chinese Communist ship made a major delivery of approximately 500 tons of military cargo to Cambodia on 23 October, including anti-aircraft artillery, machine guns, disassembled aircraft, anti-tank guns, small arms, and ammunition. Another Chicom ship, the Heping, is suspected of having discharged two shipments of arms and ammunition in July and December. Although the first of the two Heping deliveries probably was small, the latter consignment to the Cambodian armed forces is believed to approximate 450 tons. A third Chicom ship, the Jining, may have delivered a shipment of military cargoes in January 1967. Three Soviet ships likewise delivered military aid materials to Sihanoukville in the second half of 1966 under an agreement concluded earlier in the year.

25X1B

25X1B

SECRET
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SECRET
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

Numerous shipments of military-related cargoes undoubtedly were received at Sihanoukville, also. Although a large portion of the cargoes arriving from Communist China are unidentified, probably a substantial quantity of explosives are included among these shipments. Also, Polish liners discharged small quantities of explosive chemicals on occasion, such as the 3 tons of nitric acid left at Sihanoukville by the Andrzej Strug in September. At least seven French liners brought nearly 60 tons of explosives to Sihanoukville in 1966, most of which originated in France. Except for small portions of potassium nitrate and aluminum powder, the bulk of these explosives consisted of dynamite. In addition, two Japanese-flag ships delivered explosive cargoes to Sihanoukville during 1966. Large quantities of medicines from the USSR, over 50 tons of Chinese Communist medicines, and over 400 tons of drugs and medical supplies from Western Europe were imported through Sihanoukville during 1966.

It is possible that very small amounts of the military aid equipment from the USSR and China could eventually reach the hands of the Viet Cong, but it is unlikely that any large scale transfers have occurred because:

(1) Most of the material and equipment is either unsuitable for use by the Viet Cong in the type of war they are fighting, or it cannot be easily transferred to the Viet Cong without detection and interdiction. Much of

SECRET
NO FOREIGN DISSEM

SECRET

the aid equipment is either defensive, or would not be effectively employed in guerilla warfare. (2) The materials ordered and delivered are designed to modernize and enlarge the effective strength of the Cambodian armed forces. The quantities received do not exceed the planned requirements of the Cambodian armed forces. (3) There is evidence that much of this equipment was subsequently delivered to the Cambodian armed forces. (4) There have been no conclusive field reports that any of this aid material has been transferred to the Viet Cong. There is a greater possibility that more of the imported military-related cargoes, such as explosives, chemicals, medicines, and communications equipment, may have been infiltrated to the Viet Cong than the actual military material received from abroad.

SECRET
NO FOREIGN DISSEM